Sinclair Broadcasting's stations use the public airwaves free of charge, and are obligated by law to serve the public interest. Sinclair's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It may also be a violation of the equal-time rules for candidates, unless they also run an anti-Bush documentary shortly thereafter.

In the meantime, no stations are carrying documentaries on local elections, which generally have far more impact on people's daily lives.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.